

SECRETMEETING OF THE INTERAGENCY GROUP ON
NUCLEAR TESTING LIMITATIONS POLICY

August 26 & September 30, 1983

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At its two most recent meetings, the Interagency Group reviewed and refined the options paper on next steps with the Soviets on verification improvements that was prepared by the Working Group. Guidance was provided to the Working Group for the combining and narrowing of options in the paper, which basically fall into three categories: 1) developing new approaches to engaging Soviets on present policy, which is based on the substantive verification improvements mandated in NSDD-63, 2) doing nothing for the time being, and 3) relaxing somewhat the verification improvements sought. (The IG also agreed to add a TTBT rejection option to the paper.) The IG also asked the Working Group to expand upon the modalities and results that might be expected from the different verification arrangements posited under the third option cited above. A detailed side-by-side comparison of options one and three was requested. The Working Group will undertake these and other changes with a view to forwarding the paper to the NSC within two weeks.

The IG also received at both meetings status reports from the Intelligence Community on its consideration of the two DoD technical panel reports relating to teleseismic yield estimation (see report of June 29 meeting). At its September 30 meeting, the IG was briefed on the conclusions of a study of Soviet compliance with the TTBT by Dr. D. Westervelt of Los Alamos National Laboratory.

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